

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

RURAL DISTRICT

OF

H E R E F O R D



1951



ISSUED, JULY, 1952

HEREFORD :

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## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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# HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT

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Telephone 2200.

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Telegrams :

WOOD-POWER, 2200, HEREFORD.

*Medical Officer of Health :*

**R. WOOD-POWER, B.A., F.R.C.S.(Ire.), D.P.H.,**

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,**

**21, EAST STREET,**

**HEREFORD.**

*4th June, 1952.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the Hereford Rural District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you the Annual Report for the above District for the year 1951.

The birthrate was 13.4 per 1,000, and the deathrate was 8.9 per 1,000 (and when adjusted by the comparability factors supplied by the Registrar General, were respectively 15.5 and 8.7 per 1,000), and the infant mortality rate 21 per 1,000 births.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

R. WOOD-POWER.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

---

*Clerk to Council—*

R. A. SYMONDS, M.A.(Cantab.).

*Medical Officer of Health—*

R. WOOD POWER, B.A., F.R.C.S.(Ire.), D.P.H. (Part time).

*Sanitary Inspector—*

DONALD FODEN, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B. Cert. Meat and Other Foods. .

One-half of the salary of the Medical Officer of Health and of the Sanitary Inspector is contributed from Exchequer grants.

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

	1901	1921	1931	1951
Area in acres ... ..	65,669	65,669	65,669	65,669
Population (Census) ... ..	13,271	13,894	13,448	17,474
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate) ... ..	—	—	13,380	17,540
*Structurally separate dwellings				
occupied (Census) ... ..	2,877	2,970	3,146	3,878
Private Families (Census) ...	2,973	3,012	3,207	—
No. of Parishes... ..	39	39	39	39
Rateable value 31st March ...	£125,283	£135,217	£52,172	£67,937
A penny rate produces ...	£389	£429	£207	£280
,,   ,,   ,,   Housing (1919 Act)			£206	£301

*\*The information as to structurally separate dwellings occupied for 1951 has been supplied by Rating Officer.*

		<i>Total</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>		
Live Births	{	Legitimate	222	116	106	Birth rate 13.4 (adjusted 15.5)	
		Illegitimate	14	6	8		
Still Births	...	...	1	1	0	Rate 0.06 per 1,000	Total population.
Deaths	...	...	157	84	73	Death rate 8.9 (adjusted 8.7)	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :							
All Infants per 1,000 live births		...	...	...	21		
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		...	...	...	23		
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		...	...	...	0		
Deaths from Puerperal Causes		...	...	...	0		
„	„	Malignant Neoplasms (all ages)	...	...	21		
„	„	Measles (all ages)	...	...	0		
„	„	Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	0		



## PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER

The Rural District of Hereford is situated in the middle of the county, and completely surrounds the city of Hereford. It is bounded on the north by the Leominster and Wigmore Rural District, on the north-east by the Bromyard Rural District, on the south by the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District, and on the west by the Dore and Bredwardine and Weobley Rural Districts. The middle of the district is low-lying.

In the north Dinmore Hill rises to a height of 943 ft., in the south Orcop Hill to 958 ft., and Aconbury Hill 905 ft., on the west Credenhill is 720 ft., while on the eastern side are Dinedor 595 ft., Backbury 738 ft., and Westhide 422 ft.

The district is well watered. The river Wye flows across from west to east in a very tortuous bed, and the rivers Lugg and Frome flow from north to south until they empty into the Wye. In the low-lying portions, following the courses of the rivers, is alluvial deposit.

Geologically the district is Old Red Sandstone. Credenhill, Dinedor, Dinmore and Callow hills are of Cornstone formation.

The subsoil is gravelly loam in those parishes through which the rivers flow, and in the remainder of the district for the most part marl or clay.

The population at the census of 1931 in the 39 parishes within the district varied from 18 in Dinmore to 1,553 in Burghill, but if the Mental Hospital residents are deducted, the Burghill population is still the largest in the district. Detailed figures from the Census of 1951 are not yet available. There are collections of houses into villages at Bullingham, Fownhope, Holmer, Little Dewchurch, Lugwardine, Marden, Mordiford, Wellington and Withington.

## INDUSTRIES

The industries are largely of an agricultural nature, hops and fruit are largely grown, and there is extensive breeding of Herefordshire cattle and dairying. Tile works are situated in Withington parish and light engineering works at Lower Bullingham. There are flour mills in the parishes of Holmer and Wellington; nurseries in Breinton and Burghill.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

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### NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE

#### Professional Nursing in the Home—

- (a) General—a District Nurse is provided for all the parishes in the area.
- (b) For infectious diseases—none.

The nursing is provided by the County Council and the Nurses are under the supervision of the Superintendent Nursing Officer.

**The Midwives Acts** are administered by the County Council.

There are, on an average, twelve trained Midwives practising in the Rural District.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) at Bath Street, Hereford, where Dr. D. R. Christie is in charge.



The following examinations were made during 1951 :

			<i>Positive</i>		<i>Negative</i>		<i>Total</i>
For Diphtheria	...	...	0	...	9	...	9
For Tuberculosis	...	...	19	...	0	...	19
For Typhoid fever	...	...	0	...	6	...	6
For Hæmolytic Streptococcus			17	...	4	...	21
For Vincents angina	...	...	1	...	10	...	11
For Staphylococci	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
Fæces for Shigella Sonne	...	...	22	...	36	...	58
Fæces for Salmonella	...	...	15	...	22	...	37
Water for Dysentery	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
Water for Salmonella	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
Water for Non-Lactose Fermentors			0	...	0	...	0
Milk for Dysentery	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
Milk for Staphylococci	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
Milk for Salmonella	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
Milk for Brucella Abortus	...	...	0	...	4	...	4
Milk for Tubercle Baccilli	...	...	0	...	4	...	4
Water Samples (Chemical)	...	...	0	...	0	...	15*
Water Samples (Bacteriological)			0	...	0	...	127†

\* 12 satisfactory ; 3 unsatisfactory.

† 50 satisfactory ; 77 unsatisfactory.

## LEGISLATION IN FORCE

By-laws with respect to Hop and Fruit Pickers were made in 1909, they were amended during 1937 ; Tents and Vans in 1912, New Buildings in 1918, and Food By-laws in 1950.

## HOSPITALS

Hospital Services for the County of Hereford are now under the Management of the Herefordshire Hospital Management Committee, who are responsible for the control of the following Hospital beds, to which patients can be admitted in case of need :

							<i>Beds</i>
General Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
County Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	333
Burghill Mental Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	532
Holme Lacy Mental Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Victoria Eye Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Ledbury Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Leominster Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Ross Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Kington Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tupsley Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	39

HOSPITALS—*continued*

Burghill Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	43
Bromyard Hospital for Chronic Sick	...	...	...	...	93
Alton Street Hospital, Ross, for Chronic Sick and Adult Mental Defectives...	...	...	...	...	163
Kingswood Hall, Kington. Chronic Sick block only	...	...	...	...	22
Old Priory, Leominster. Chronic Sick block only	...	...	...	...	36

**Ambulance Facilities**

Four Motor Ambulances and two "Utilicon" Ambulances for sitting or stretcher cases operated by the Herefordshire Joint Ambulance Committee as agents for the local health authority are stationed at Phoenix House, Commercial Road, Hereford (Telephone 3000), and are available for the removal of any cases, on application to the Ambulance Headquarters at the above address.

Trained attendants are on duty day and night to accompany the Ambulances.

**Clinics and Treatment Centres**

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	County Hospital.
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	County Hospital.
Orthopædic	...	...	...	County Hospital and B.R.C.S., Red Cross Hut, Blackfriars Street, Hereford.

**National Assistance Act, 1948**

One male person was found to be living in insanitary conditions in consequence of his being aged and physically incapacitated and an Order was made by the County Magistrates for his removal to a suitable Hospital and for his detention therein for a period of three months. He was admitted to the Belle Orchard House, Ledbury, a Residential Centre, where he was still under detention at the end of 1950, and during 1951 an Order was made extending his detention for a further period of one month.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

There is a combined water supply to some of the houses in the parishes of Allensmore, Bolstone, Clehonger, Credenhill, Dormington, Eaton Bishop, Fownhope, Lugwardine, Much Birch, Much Dewchurch, Stoke Edith, Sutton and Westhide, and a supply for domestic services only is obtained for houses in Lugwardine and Bartestree from the River Lugg. Shallow wells or springs provide supplies elsewhere. Many of these are not actually on the premises. In the parishes of Aconbury, Little Birch and Much Birch, many houses are particularly badly off for water. A scheme for a joint supply for these parishes, prepared in 1925, was not proceeded with. The question was reopened during 1936, and further considered in 1937 and 1938. An enquiry was held, but no decision arrived at. A scheme for a supply of water to houses at Shucknall Hill in the parish of Weston Beggard was completed in 1938 with great benefit to the users. The Hereford City supply is laid on to parts of Burghill including the Mental Hospital, Breinton, Lower Bullingham, Holmer and Pipe and Lyde. Under the provisions of the Hereford Corporation Act, 1936, powers are now available whereby the City water supply may be extended into the Rural Areas. The necessary agreements have been entered into by the two Councils, and many occupiers are enjoying the benefits now available.

Deep bores have been put down to supply the Council Houses in the parishes of Much Birch, Much Dewchurch, Burghill, Dormington, Fownhope, Sutton, Stoke Edith, Preston Wynne and Withington. If the tests as to quality and quantity are satisfactory the use of any surplus water to supply other houses in the area would in some cases provide a long-felt want.

A very comprehensive report prepared by Major A. H. S. Waters, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., Consulting Engineer, dealing with the question of the provision of piped supplies for the whole area is under consideration by the Council.

The water samples analysed during 1951 are as under :

			<i>Examined</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Chemical	...	...	15	12	3
Bacteriological	...	...	127	50	77

### SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

There is no general system of sewers in the area.

There are two or three areas in the district where housing development took place in pre-war years on the assumption that it would later be possible to connect up to main sewers, but on the outbreak of hostilities in 1939 this provision had to be abandoned.



The need for such service still exists, and it may be possible for arrangements to be made to utilise some of the disposal plant which was installed for service establishments during the war. A scheme of Sewage Disposal for the Parish of Fownhope was prepared but it is still under consideration.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

None in the district.

### SCAVENGING

A system of refuse collection is now in force in the area, whereby all household refuse is collected once per month, and from those houses situated on the fringe of the City area once per fortnight; the refuse so collected being disposed of by tipping.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

No case of infestation was discovered.

### REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR

As required by Article XVII (18) of the Sanitary Officer's (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Inspections under	No. of Inspec- tions.	Informal Notices served.	Statutory Notices served.	Notices complied with.
Housing Acts ... ..	198	57	1	48
Housing Regulations ...	57	—	—	—
Housing—Conditions of Applicants for Council Houses }	60	—	—	—
Nuisances ... ..	299	147	1	148
Infectious Diseases ...	118	79	—	79
Water Supplies ... ..	306	187	—	187
Dairies and Milk Supplies ...	159	35	—	35
Food and Food Premises ...	85	38	—	38
Schools ... ..	15	1	—	1
Hop Pickers' Quarters ...	117	61	—	61
Factories with Mechanical Power... ..	53	20	—	20
Factories without Mechanical Power... ..	1	—	—	—
Other Premises under the Factories Acts ... ..	17	5	—	5
Workplaces ... ..	7	3	—	3
Petroleum Acts and Regula- tions ... ..	72	35	—	35
Damage by Pests Act ...	20	4	—	4
Temporary and Movable Dwellings ... ..	160	75	—	75
Refuse Collection and Dis- posal ... ..	81	6	—	6

**Housing**

During the year 11 houses were erected by private persons, and 46 houses by the Council. Fifty-two houses were repaired under the provisions of the Public Health and/or Housing Acts as a result of informal intimations to the owners or agents concerned. One Statutory Notice requiring house repairs was still in operation at the end of the year under review, and one house was repaired as a result of a Statutory Notice served at the end of 1950. Much work remains to be done under the Housing Acts, but this is limited by the rate at which new houses can be erected.

**Nuisances**

One Statutory Notice was served during the year, requiring the abatement of a nuisance arising from the depositing of refuse. All other nuisances were satisfactorily overcome by informal action.

**Infectious Diseases**

Thirty-two cases of infectious diseases were investigated during the year, and 54 rooms and 47 lots of bedding were fumigated. Five contacts of infectious disease were voluntarily suspended from engaging in dairy work, and three other persons from the handling and preparation of other foods.

**Water Supplies**

Fourteen new wells have been sunk during the year, and this includes two bores on new Council Sites. Fifteen samples have been submitted for Chemical Analysis and 127 samples for Bacteriological Examination, with the following results :—

					<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Chemical	...	...	...	...	12	3
Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	50	77

**Dairies and Milk Supplies**

Nineteen samples of T.T. and Pasteurised Milk were submitted for examination with the following results :—

Satisfactory	...	...	15
Unsatisfactory	...	...	4

There are on the register three dairies and 13 distributors and of the latter number six are distributors of T.T. milk and five of Pasteurised milk. In addition, so far as is known, there are 40 producers of milk, who are registered with the Ministry of Agriculture, who are also distributors in the area of milk for retail sale. Of this latter number six are known to be retailing T.T. milk,



### Food and Food Premises

Eighty-two tins of various foodstuffs together with 13 oranges were condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption.

Eight premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, and ten samples were submitted for examination and were reported upon as falling within the following grades:—

<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Grade 4</i>	<i>Total</i>
5	2	2	1	10

Four premises are registered for use in the preparation or manufacture of sausages, preserved food, etc., and one knacker's yard is registered within the area.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

One Inspector/Operator is employed, but his services are shared jointly with the Ross and Whitchurch R.D. and the Ledbury R.D. The table set out hereunder records his work in this area during 1951:—

	Premises In- spected	No. of In- spec- tions	Total Infes- tations	RATS		In- formal Notices	Statu- tory Notices
				Major	Minor		
Local Authorities' Properties ...	12	25	8	2	6	—	—
Dwelling Houses ...	119	122	32	—	32	1	—
Business Premises ...	26	26	5	—	5	1	—
Agricultural Properties ...	260	287	100	13	87	18	—
TOTALS ...	417	460	145	15	130	20	—

The operational work carried out was on property belonging to the Local Authority—no treatments are carried out on a contract basis or otherwise at private properties.

No Statutory Action was necessary during the year under review.

### Temporary and Movable Dwellings

These present a problem of some magnitude, and one not likely to be diminished until the general housing shortage becomes less acute.

**Refuse Collection**

There is in operation a system whereby refuse is collected in each of the 39 parishes in this district once in every four-weekly period, and in certain areas near to Hereford City such collection is effected once in each fortnight.

During 1951, 666 loads of refuse—approximately the equivalent of 3,330 cubic yards—were collected and hauled to the three disused quarries used for disposal. A total of 13,049 miles was involved.

From 25th January, 1951—the date of the inception of the special scheme—until 31st December, 1951, 17 tons, 15 cwts., 2 qtrs., 8 lbs. of waste paper were collected and sold to the waste paper merchants.

DONALD FODEN, M.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A.,

Cert. Meat and Other Foods,

*Sanitary Inspector.*

Tel. 2200.

21, East Street, Hereford.

*2nd May, 1952.*

FACTORIES

There are 41 factories with mechanical power, and four factories without mechanical power within the district.

1. Inspections :

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories with mechanical power	53	—	—
Factories without mechanical power ... ..	1	—	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	17	2	—
TOTALS ... ..	71	2	—

2. Defects found :

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>			<i>Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness Sanitary Conveniences (unsuitable or defective)... ..	12	12	—	—
Other Offences ...	9	9	—	—
Other Offences ...	2	2	—	—
TOTAL ...	23	23	—	—

3. Outwork in unwholesome premises—Nil.

## HOP-PICKERS

The By-laws in connection with accommodation for persons engaged in the gathering of Hops, Fruit and Vegetables made in 1909 have been rescinded, and new By-laws made by the Council on the 26th June, 1937, were confirmed by the Minister of Health and came into operation on the 20th August, 1937.

About 2,000 pickers came from outside Herefordshire, chiefly South Wales and Staffordshire, to 16 farms; barns, stables, cow-sheds and other outbuildings are utilised for their accommodation, though on an increasing number of farms there are specially erected buildings. A new type of trough closet, so constructed as to be water flushed, has been installed on several farms.

At some farms in the district, arrangements are made whereby it is possible for the pickers to purchase a portion of their food and other supplies from canteens on the premises. Efficient scavenging of the area surrounding the quarters is a problem of some magnitude, but serious efforts are made on most farms for this to be done. The secret of success appears to be obtaining the services of men who are interested in this work and their ability to encourage the pickers to co-operate with them. Unless continual supervision is exercised breakdowns are bound to occur. No case of Infectious Disease was notified during the hop picking season.

The hop farms were visited by Dr. Eric Donaldson, an Inspector of the Ministry of Health.

## TENTS, VANS, ETC.

A copy of the By-laws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures adopted in 1912 will be found at the end of the 1912 Report, together with a shortened form set out in more understandable terms than the official phraseology of the actual By-laws. In order to get these By-laws carried out the procedure adopted is for the Inspector to take a copy of the latter form and read it over to the occupier of a tent, etc. A record is kept of those persons who have had the form. After a suitable period a re-inspection is made in order to see that the By-laws are being carried out. The camping habit during the summer months is increasing considerably, particularly in areas in the Rural District adjoining the City. While the open air life of legitimate campers is to be encouraged, much of the good obtained can be nullified unless care is taken to ensure that the question of a good water supply and efficient and well maintained sanitary accommodation is provided. The use of caravans to provide housing accommodation for their owners is increasing—most of the vehicles are of very sound construction and really well fitted. The occupiers, as a general rule, are careful to see that the Council's By-laws are complied with.



SCHOOLS (22)

There are 22 schools in the area and details of the water supplies, sanitary arrangements, etc. are set out on page 19 of the 1938 report.

RAG FLOCK ACT

There are no premises in the district on which Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Since 1919, 763 new houses have been built, as follows :—

1919	...	2	1930	...	9	1941	...	5
1920	...	2	1931	...	19	1942	...	1
1921	...	50	1932	...	13	1943	...	0
1922	...	39	1933	...	21	1944	...	2
1923	...	13	1934	...	56	1945	...	5
1924	...	12	1935	...	64	1946	...	14
1925	...	30	1936	...	54	1947	...	12
1926	...	13	1937	...	66	1948	...	25
1927	...	10	1938	...	56	1949	...	26
1928	...	10	1939	...	38	1950	...	18
1929	...	12	1940	...	9	1951	...	57

HOUSING ACT, 1949 (PART II)

Four applications were received for assistance under the provisions of the above Act ; one of the applications was subsequently rejected by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, two were still under review at the end of the year, and the fourth applicant was allowed a 50 per cent. grant on a proposed expenditure of £598.

NEW HOUSES

Number of New Houses erected during the year :

(a)	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts :								
	(i)	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
	(ii)	By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	0



(1) **Unfit Dwelling Houses**

INSPECTION

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	57
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	198
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 ... ..	57
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	57
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	2
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	57

(2) **Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	52*
--	-----

\* *Of this number, repairs to five houses were completed in accordance with notices served in previous years.*

(3) **Action under Statutory Powers during the year**

*A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ... ..	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

*B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ... ..	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

*C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	0

*D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	0
(2) Number of Closing Orders as above determined ...	0

*Housing Act, 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding.*

(a) (1) Number of Dwellings overcrowded at end of year...	*
(2) Number of Families dwelling therein ... ..	*
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	*
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	*

\* Owing to the abnormal conditions during and immediately following the war it has not been possible to keep any accurate record of overcrowding.

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	Nil
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	Nil
(d) Dwelling houses which have again become overcrowded after steps by Local Authority for abatement ...	Nil

## HOUSING CONDITIONS

**General Observations**

The standard of houses fell somewhat during the war years by reason of the fact that few repairs were carried out and the number of borderline houses have thus increased. A great portion of the cottages are of the timber frame and brick noggin construction and, when repairs are carried out in good time, they may be well preserved, but if this type of house is neglected it is often found that the cost of the repairs necessary to make them fit for habitation is prohibitive.

The Council have formulated a programme for the provision of new houses in the area, and that the allotments should be distributed as far as possible over the whole district.

The following houses have been constructed since the war :—

Eaton Bishop (8)	Holme Lacy (6)
Clehonger (8)	Dormington (6)
Burghill (8)	Preston Wynne (8)
and Sutton (8)	

Work of erection is proceeding at Stoke Edith, Withington, Marden and Lugwardine, and further sites have been purchased and water obtained by boring.

The Council were allotted eight brick huts with asbestos roofs at the former R.A.F. Camp at Madley, in the Dore and Bredwardine Rural District, and these have been adapted to provide 29 bungalows, each of which has a bathroom and w.c., water is laid on, and all have main drainage.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The number of dairies registered under the above regulations is three whilst the number of milk distributors in the area is 53, of whom five are retailers of Pasteurised Milk, and 12 retailers of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Three contacts of Scarlet Fever and two contacts of dysentery were voluntarily suspended from dairy work.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

No slaughter houses are in use.

The following articles of food were condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption :

Thirteen Oranges ; and 82 tins of various Foodstuffs.

There are public Bakehouses in the parishes of Credenhill, Fownhope, Little Dewchurch and Much Birch.

Eight premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream.

## FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

(a) Total number of outbreaks	...	...	...	1
(b) Number of cases	...	...	...	2
(c) Number of deaths	...	...	...	0
(d) Organisms or other agents responsible				
		Salmonella	Typhi-Murium	
(e) Foods involved	...	...	...	Not known

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Act for adulteration is administered by the County Police.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

### SCARLET FEVER

The 115 cases occurred in 18 houses and in 10 parishes. Of this number 94 cases occurred at a Military Camp in the area. 108 cases were removed to Hospital. There was no death.

### DIPHThERIA

No cases were notified during the year.

### TYPHOID FEVER

Nil.

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Household disinfection is carried out with Formaline lamps and spray. The number of rooms disinfected was 54 and the number of lots of bedding, etc., 47.







## HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT. CAUSES OF DEATH, 1951.

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	6	1
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	1
4. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1	—
5. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	3
6. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	2
7. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	10	5
8. Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	2	1
9. Diabetes ... ..	1	—
10. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	8	9
11. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	13	7
12. Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	3
13. Other heart disease ... ..	12	16
14. Other circulatory disease... ..	6	1
15. Influenza ... ..	—	3
16. Pneumonia ... ..	1	5
17. Bronchitis ... ..	2	5
18. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	—
19. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	3	1
20. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	3	—
21. Congenital malformations ... ..	2	2
22. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	5	7
23. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2	—
24. All other accidents ... ..	3	—
TOTAL ... ..	84	73

## INFANT MORTALITY DURING 1951

Nett deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age :

2 days	...	...	Aspirative Pneumonia
1 month	...	...	Prematurity
4 months	...	...	Asphyxia
5 months	...	...	Asphyxia
6 months	...	...	Subarachnoid Hæmorrhage

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

The Blind Persons Acts are administered by the Herefordshire County Association for the Blind, on behalf of the County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS

Nineteen cases, eight deaths—seven pulmonary, one other forms. The deaths occurred in the parishes of Burghill, Much Dewchurch, Grafton, Marden, Mordiford, Pipe and Lyde, Stoke Edith, and Stretton Sugwas.

AGE— PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20 ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
25 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 ...	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
65 and upwards ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	10	6	2	1	6	1	—	1

In no case was there wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

On the 31st December, 1951, there were on the Register the following cases :

<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
40	33	13	21

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)  
REGULATIONS, 1925

No person suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was suspended from dairy work during the year.





